

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 188993

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:LWILLEMS:BM
APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:MGARRISON
H - RFLATEN (SUBS)
S/S-O:JLHOGANSON

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P 090120Z AUG 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD PRIORITY

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP, PFOR, CVIS, UR, US (DRINAN, ROBERT F.)

SUBJECT: TRAVEL BY CONGRESSMAN DRINAN AND GROUP

REF: STATE 186316 AND 186735

1. AUGUST 8 SOVEMBASSY CONSOFF INFORMED DEPARTMENT THAT HE
WILL ISSUE CONGRESSMAN DRINAN OFFICIAL VISA ON AUGUST 11
FOR "OFFICIAL TRAVEL TO CONGEN AND EMBASSY." DEPTOFF
ASKED IF DRINAN WILL BE ABLE TO GO TO KIEV ALSO, AND SOVIET
CONSOFF REPLIED THAT TRAVEL NOTE FOR SUCH TRAVEL WOULD HAVE
TO BE FILED WITH MFA IN USSR.

2. ALSO AUGUST 8 DRINAN GROUP'S TRAVEL AGENT, GARBER
TRAVEL AGENCY OF BOSTON, RECEIVED TELEX NUMBER 14194 FROM
INTOURIST MOSCOW STATING QUOTE REGRET DUE TO UNFORSEEN
CIRCUMSTANCES CANCEL ARRANGEMENTS FOR DRINAN GROUP.
INTOURIST END QUOTE.

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3. SOVEMBASSY CONSOFF SAID HE HAD NO INFORMATION ABOUT ANY SUCH INTOURIST CANCELLATION OF DRINAN GROUP. HE SAID HE HAD ISSUED VISAS TO REST OF GROUP ONCE, RECALLED THEM

BECAUSE OF MINOR ERROR, BUT WOULD REISSUE THEM.

4. LATE AUGUST 8 DEPARTMENT PHONED VORONTSOV AND RECEIVED SIMILAR REASSURANCES THAT DRINAN AND REMAINDER OF GROUP WOULD BE ISSUED VISAS. VORONTSOV EXPRESSED APPREHENSION ABOUT HOW DRINAN WILL CONDUCT HIMSELF IN USSR.

5. DRINAN HAS REPEATEDLY PHONED DEPARTMENT AND ASSERTED THAT HE FEELS DEPARTMENT AND, THROUGH IT, SOVEMBASSY, ASSURED HIM IN PAST THAT HE WOULD RECEIVE SOVIET VISA UPON APPLICATION. WHILE WE BELIEVE SOVEMBASSY ASSURANCES THAT IT INTENDS TO ISSUE VISAS TO DRINAN AND GROUP, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT LACK OF INTOURIST ACCOMODATIONS MAY ABORT TRIP AT LAST MOMENT. EMBASSY REQUESTED CONFIRM

WITH INTOURIST MOSCOW MORNING AUGUST 11 THAT THERE ARE ACCOMODATIONS FOR DRINAN GROUP. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE188993
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LWILLEMS:BM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750275-0459
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750866/aaaacfpq.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 186316, 75 STATE 186735
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <14 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRAVEL BY CONGRESSMAN DRINAN AND GROUP
TAGS: OREP, CVIS, UR, US, (DRINAN, ROBERT F)
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006